

City of Houston Municipal Art
www.houstonmunicipalart.org

Atropos Key

| PUBLIC ART COLLECTION IDENTIFICATION SUMMARY | |
|---|---|
|  | Number: 0015 |
| | Artist: Stewart, Hannah H. |
| | Title: Atropos Key |
| | Date: 1972, Dedicated August 24, 1972 |
| | Type: Sculpture |
| | Medium: Sculpture: Cast Bronze, Base: Concrete and black slate |
| | Dimensions: Sculpture: 129" x 79" x 11 1/8" Base: 25 1/2" x 119" x 60" |
| | Foundry/Fabricator: x |
| | Location/Environment: Hermann Park, at top of hill of Miller Theatre, Outdoors |
| Provenance: Given to the City of Houston by Patricia S. Woodward | |

Historical Background

Subject

Atropos Key refers to the Greek Goddess of Fate, Atropos, (the cutter of the thread of life). According to Greek mythology, Atropos, and her sisters Clotho (the spinner of the thread of destiny) and Lachesis (the measurer of the thread) were responsible for human destiny.

Physical Description

Atropos Key is a polished, tooled-surface, cast-bronze sculpture mounted on a concrete trapezoidal base faced with black slate. The artist's name is placed on one of the vertical legs (*H. STEWART*). The edition number and title appear on the horizontal edge of the self base (*1/3 ATROPOS KEY*).

The bronze plaque located on the metal base plate of the sculpture reads as follows:

ATROPOS KEY/ SCULPTOR/ HANNAH STEWART/ DONOR/ PATRICIA S. WOODWARD/
GIVEN TO THE CITY OF HOUSTON/ AUGUST 24, 1972

Restoration / Conservation

Atropos Key was restored in January, 1998.